

Business Committee

Minutes BC(3)29-08

Date: Tuesday 11 November 2008

Time: 8.30 a.m.

Venue: Meeting Room 4th Floor, Corporate Unit

Assembly Members in Attendance

Dafydd Elis-Thomas, Presiding Officer (Chair)

Carl Sargeant, Chief Whip

Jocelyn Davies, Plaid Cymru Business Manager

William Graham, Welsh Conservatives Business Manager

Peter Black, Welsh Liberal Democrats

Officials in Attendance

Adrian Crompton, Director of Assembly Business

Marion Stapleton, Office of the Leader of the House

Sulafa Halstead, Head of Committee Service

Marc Wyn Jones, Clerk of the Business Committee

1. Apologies & announcements

1.1 The Chair said that he had received apologies for absence from Kirsty Williams and the Leader of the House. He welcomed Peter Black and Carl Sargeant who were representing them, in accordance with Standing Order 10.42.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

(i) BC(3)28-08 (Draft minutes) - Tuesday 4 November 2008

2.1 The minutes were presented to the Committee in their draft format. An amendment was suggested, which would be incorporated before the minutes were translated in readiness for publication.

Action: Business Committee Secretariat

3. Forthcoming Business

This Week's Business - BC(3)29-08(p1)

3.1 The Committee noted that a motion to suspend Standing Orders would be tabled on Tuesday to bring forward a motion elect Nick Ramsay as a member of the Finance Committee in place of Nick Bourne.

3.2 The Committee noted that there would be no Voting Time on Tuesday and that Voting Time on Wednesday would take place no earlier than 5pm.

3.3 The Committee noted the organisation of business for 11 and 12 November 2008.

3 Week Timetable of Government Business - BC(3)28-08(p2)

3.4 The Committee noted the 3 Week Timetable of Government Business.

3 Week Timetable of Assembly and Non-Government Business - BC(3)26-08(p3)

3.5 The Business Committee agreed to schedule a debate on David Melding's Proposal for an LCO - Welsh Language Commissioner, on 3 December.

3.6 The Committee determined the organisation of Assembly Business.

3.7 The Committee determined the organisation of non-government Business.

4. Legislation

Paper on Permanent Legislation Committees - BC(3)29-08(p4)

4.1 At its meeting on 4 November, the Business Committee agreed to establish 5 permanent legislation committees, each with 5 members plus a non-voting chair and that one of the committees should, primarily, deal with individual Members and committee legislative proposals with the other four dealing, primarily, with government legislation. It was proposed that the Deputy Presiding Officer should act as the non-voting Chair of the committee dealing with Members and committee legislation.

4.2 At today's meeting, the Business Committee agreed to establish the first Legislation Committee, to deal, primarily, with individual Members and Committee proposed legislation. It was agreed that Business Managers would provide the names of their nominees shortly.

4.3 The Business Committee noted that the new model of committee would not require changes to Standing Orders. However, the Standing Orders did not envisage the new role of a 'non-voting' Chair. The Business Committee agreed to proceed initially by way of convention, rather than changing Standing Orders. The conventions outlined in the paper were approved and the Chair said that they would be communicated to members of the new committees.

Letter from Nerys Evans: Proposed Shipment of Waste for Recovery (Community Involvement in Arrangements) Measure 200 - BC(3)29-08(p5)

4.4 The Business Committee agreed to refer Nerys Evans' proposed Measure to a Committee for Stage 1 consideration.

5. Committees

Request by the Rural Development Sub Committee to hold a launch event at the Royal Welsh Winter Fair - BC(3)29-08(p6)

5.1 The Business Committee agreed the request by the Rural Development Sub Committee to launch the consultation for its inquiry into Food Production in Wales at the Royal Welsh Winter Fair on Monday 1 December.

Request by the Finance Committee for a Rapporteur Group to visit Sweden as part of its inquiry into Public Private Partnerships - BC(3)29-08(p7)

5.2 The Business Committee agreed the request by the Finance Committee to send a Rapporteur Group to Sweden as part of its inquiry into Public Private Partnerships on Thursday 20 November.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT